



Index	
Viewpoint	• Page 5
Community Events	• Page 7
Chaplain	• Page 9
MWR News	• Page 10
Sports and Leisure	• Page 14

The Signal



Friday, December 3, 2004

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 24, No. 50

News UPDATE

Holiday concert

The Annual U.S. Army Signal Corps Band Holiday Concert is 7 p.m. today at the First Baptist Church on Walton Way Extension. Admission is free.

War memorial

The Korean War Veterans Memorial Dedication ceremony is 2 p.m. Saturday.

The site of the newly-built monument is on Broad Street between Third and Fourth streets in Augusta. The memorial will honor the Korean War Veterans from the Central Savannah River Area, which includes 21 counties in Georgia and South Carolina.

Col. Jeffery Smith, deputy commander/assistant commandant of the U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon will be one of the guest speakers. For more information, call Harold Harmon at (803)648-1643 or e-mail halharusnr@aol.com.

Holiday event

Brig. Gen. Eric Schoomaker, Eisenhower Army Medical Center commanding general, will be the guest speaker at a Menorah lighting at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Augusta Common on Broad Street. For information, call 733-7659.

Tree lighting

The installation's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony is at 6 p.m. Thursday in Freedom Park on Rice Road.

The ceremony includes a concert of holiday music by the U.S. Army Signal Corps Band, a visit by Santa Claus and refreshments after the ceremony. For information call 791-9536.

Award ceremony

The installation's yearly awards ceremony will be held at 8:30 a.m. Thursday in the lobby of Conrad Hall.

The ceremony will honor the following individuals/organizations:

- Personnel Retention awards.
- Servicemember of the Year: Spc. Adam Jones (206th MI Bn.)
- NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. Ebony Cousins (447th Sig. Bn.)
- Instructor of the Year: Staff Sgt. Eric Flores (School of Information Technology)
- Cook of the Year: Sgt. Terriiski Davis (93rd Sig. Bde.)
- Civilian of the Year: James Baugh (Office of the Staff Judge Advocate)
- Volunteer of the Year: Beck Wright (Chaplain's Office)

For information call Linda Means at 791-1871.

LandWarNet Networking the Force in the Joint Fight

Briefing 'primes' on LandWarNet

Spc. Armando Monroig

Signal staff

An informational briefing on the LandWarNet was held at Alexander Hall Tuesday as part of Signal Symposium activities held this week on post.

Several speakers, most from the Directorate of Combat Developments, spoke to a standing-room only, audience of Soldiers and Signal Symposium vendors.

The LandWarNet Primer set the stage for workshop agendas and better focused discussions that were held throughout post during Symposium activities.

Lt. Gen. Steven Boutelle, chief information officer, G-6, unable to attend, presented virtually in a video recorded briefing to Signal Officers held at Alexander Hall Monday.

The LandWarNet, as stated in one of the video presentations, is the Army's contribution to the Global Information Grid that is made up of networks from the other branches of service, emphasizing the joint operations needed in today's global war on terrorism.

It will bring together existing programs and future capabilities right down to the

See LandWarNet page 4



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Fort Gordon Signal Symposium attendees take a look at some of the equipment the 75th Ranger Regiment had on display Tuesday as part of their Signal Symposium exhibit. Vendors and other units such as the 93rd Signal Brigade and Joint Communications Support Element, set up static displays across from Signal Towers during symposium week. Soldiers and vendors from all over the world came to learn what is new in Army Signal technology. See page 20 for more information.

Christmas House now open to public

Denise Allen

Signal staff

With the Signal Corps Band playing Christmas tunes, Fort Gordon pre-kindergartners singing holiday songs and a visit from St. Nick, Nov. 22 was a festive morning — marking the annual opening of Christmas House.

Christmas House is "a program in its 38th season for all the community to come together in the true spirit of fellowship and brotherhood," said Vanessa Stanley, Army Community Services chief, at the grand opening.

Representatives from military units as well as community organizations presented checks to Christmas House that will be used to buy toys and other items for military families in need to have a traditional holiday celebration.

Members of organizations such as the CSRA Alliance for Fort Gordon, Federal Managers Association, Officers Spouses Club, Enlisted Wives Club, the Association of the United States Army and the Augusta Newcomers Club as well as the 93rd Signal Brigade, the 15th Regimental Signal Brigade, 206th Military Intelligence Group and the 442nd Signal Battalion were among those who presented about \$30,000 in checks at the opening.

Lynn Harshman, Christmas House coordinator, said more funds will continue to trickle in.

They raised the money through vari-



Photo by Denise Allen

Santa Claus and his helpers greet Fort Gordon pre-kindergartners at the opening of the Christmas House Nov. 22.

ous activities including golf tournaments, bake sales, the Red to Green blood drive and an angel tree to "assist families in need and bring the joy of giving to all of us," said Maj. Gen. Janet A. Hicks, Fort Gordon's commanding general, who spoke at the opening.

About 300 families with about 700 children will benefit from this year's Christmas House.

According to Hicks, Christmas House isn't just a few weeks out of the year. Planning for next year's giving will begin soon after all the toys are distributed this year.

The program started with a group of Army nurses at Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center 38 years ago.

They wanted to give a teddy bear to the children whose fathers or mothers were fighting in Vietnam.

Fundraising for Christmas House usually begins on post during the summer, and shopping for the toys is usually well underway by September so the toys can be distributed in December.

Harvey named new secretary of Army

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Dr. Francis J. Harvey was sworn in Nov. 19 at the Pentagon as the 19th Secretary of the Army.

"This is a great honor for me," Harvey said.

"My top priority will be to serve our Soldiers, civilian employees and family members of the active component, Army Reserve and Army National Guard," added Harvey.

"I look forward to working with the secretary of defense, the Army chief of staff, Gen. Pete Schoomaker; and the Army senior leadership as we fight the Global War on Terrorism while continuing to transform the force."

The Senate confirmed President Bush's nomination of Dr. Harvey Nov. 16.

"It's great to have Dr. Harvey on board as our Secretary," said Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, the Army chief of staff.

"Dr. Harvey has a wealth of experience leading large organizations with diverse work forces, managing major programs and leading technology development," said the Army chief of staff.

"His education and industry experience will serve us well as he leads our Army in this window of strategic opportunity," added Schoomaker.

As secretary of the Army, Harvey has statutory responsibility for all matters relating to Army manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, weapons systems and equipment acquisition, communications, and financial management.

Secretary Harvey is responsible for the department's annual budget of \$98.5 billion.

He leads a work force of over one million active duty, Army National Guard, and Army Reserve Soldiers, 220,000 civilian employees, thousands of contractors, and has stewardship over 15 million acres of land.

Prior to his appointment, Harvey was a business executive with broad experience centered on the defense industry. He held various professional, management and executive positions within the Westinghouse Corporation from 1969 to 1997, including president of the Electronics Systems Group, president of the Government and Environmental Services Company, and chief operating officer of the \$6 billion Industries and Technology Group.

Most recently, Harvey was a director and vice chairman of Duratek, a company specializing in treating radioactive, hazardous, and other wastes.

In his career, he has been involved in one or more phases of more than 20 major Department of Defense programs.

Harvey earned his doctorate in Metallurgy and Material Sciences from the University of Pennsylvania and his Bachelor of Science at the University of Notre Dame in Metallurgy Engineering and Material Science.

See Secretary page 2

Post Dining facilities go all out for Thanksgiving



U.S. Army Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Clark Dimery, center, judges meal and decorations made by the cooks at Dining Facility 13, Nov. 24. Judging was also held at Dining Facilities 4 and 6, Nov. 25



Maj. Gen. Janet A. Hicks, center, Fort Gordon and U.S. Army Signal Center commanding general, takes time to talk with the children who were passing out cards to the troops as they came in for lunch at Dining Facility 13.

Photos by Spc. Nicole Robus

Secretary

from page 1

He was a White House Fellow at the Department of Defense in the late 1970s.

Harvey succeeds Les Brownlee, who served as the acting Secretary of the Army for the past 18 months.

“I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Secretary Les Brownlee for his leadership and stewardship of the Army over the past 18 months,” Schoomaker said.

“I speak for the entire Army family when I say his tireless efforts - to build a campaign-quality Army with joint and expeditionary capabilities, to equip our Soldiers with the best equipment and to improve their quality of life - will have an impact on the Army and ensure we remain relevant and ready for decades to come.”

(Information for this story was obtained from a Department of Defense press release.)



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carmen Burgess

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, center, looks on while Raymond DuBois, right, director of administration and management, swears in Dr. Francis J. Harvey as the 19th secretary of the Army Nov. 19, 2004. Harvey succeeds Les Brownlee, who served as the acting Secretary of the Army for the past 18 months.



Department of Defense photo by U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jane Campbell

Homecoming Air Show

The American Firebirds fly their Extra 300S aircraft during a twilight performance at the Naval Air Station Pensacola Air Show Nov. 11. The Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show honored military and civilian personnel and their families. What made the weekend even more special was the fact that the entire region is still recovering from the devastating damage of Hurricane Ivan. The local newspaper, The Pensacola News Journal, praised Capt. J. M. Pruitt, commanding officer of NAS Pensacola, for not canceling the show – citing the fact that it would raise the spirits of the entire region.

Servicememebers, civilians recognized at CFC Ceremony

Spc. Nicole Robus
Signal military editor

Servicemembers, civilians and individual units were recognized at the Combined Federal Campaign Recognition Ceremony Nov. 23 in Gordon Club's North Ballroom on Post.

This year the total contributions as of Tuesday are \$355,793.34.

More than 3,500 people participated in this year's campaign, said Patricia Camacho, installation project coordinator, financial management division, Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

"We were only about \$4,000 short of our \$360,000 goal," said Camacho.

"Thank you to all project officers, key workers, government workers, military, civilians and contractors who gave generously in support of our campaign goal," said Camacho.

More than half of the money raised in the CSRA comes from Fort Gordon, said Terry Smith, deputy garrison commander, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon.

"This is my 30th year of contributing to the CFC.," said Maj. Gen. Janet A. Hicks, Fort Gordon and U.S. Army Signal Center commanding general.

"Each year I look forward to donating," added Hicks.

Each year individuals, organizations and units are recognized for their contribution and this year is no different.

This year's winner for the Early Bird Campaign and 100 percent participation was the Directorate of Contracting.

The Fort Gordon's Public Affairs Office received the 100 percent participation recognition.

Awards were given for the key workers also.

Top super key worker was 1st Lt. Todd Vick, 447th Signal Battalion, who was awarded a Chief of Signal plaque and a CG's Coin of Excellence.

The runners up also received a CG's Coin of Excellence.

First runner up was Staff Sgt. Willis Stollings, 447th Sig. Bn; Second runner up 2nd Lt. Aaron Smith, 206th Military Intelligence Bn.; and third runner up was Staff Sgt. Juan Fernandez, Regimental Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

During the ceremony the members of the CFC Installation Cell were also recognized, they were Staff Sgt. Carlos Calvo, noncommis-



Photos by Jimmy Buffington and collage by Spc. Nicole Robus

Project officers, key workers, government employees, military personnel, civilians and contractors along with individual units were recognized at the the Combined Federal Campaign Recognition Ceremony Nov. 23 at the Gordon Club North Ballroom.Total contribution as of Tuesday was \$355,793.34.

sioned officers in charge, Staff Sgt. Kris Horne and Sgt. Donald Schroder.

Unit recognition in the bronze, silver and gold categories are:

Ten units took home the bronze certificate with an average donation of \$113 and 18 percent participation. Those units are the 93rd Sig. Brigade, 249th General Hospital, Directorate of Public Works, 206th MI Bn, U.S. Army Dental Laboratory, 369th Sig. Bn, National Science Center, U.S. Air Force 338th Training Squadron, General Dynamics and the Naval CID Detachment.

Six units took home the silver certificate with an average donation of \$151 and 25.3 percent participation.

Those units were the 63rd Sig. Bn, 442nd Sig. Bn,

447th Sig. Bn, U.S. Army South East Regional Dental Command and U.S. Army Dental Activity, Directorate of Resource Management and the U.S. Army Garrison.

Three units took home the gold with an average donation of \$189 and 31.6 percent. Those were the Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization, Public Affairs Office and the U.S. Air Force 31st Intelligence Squadron.

"I applaud those who contributed to the CFC," said Hicks. "Please be proud if you were just a giver, or if you were a project officer."

Even though the campaign has officially ended contributions are still being accepted in Darling Hall, Room 260 until Dec. 15, said Camacho.

Disobeying traffic laws cost more than money

Spc. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

Nobody wants to have to get out of work, spend an hour-and-a-half to attend a court hearing when you can be doing better things with your time.

But that's what many military members may wind up having to do if they break Fort Gordon traffic rules and get caught.

Violators of Fort Gordon's moving violations laws now have to attend a mandatory court session when they receive a citation.

The traffic court serves two purposes: to determine whether or not a traffic law was violated and to assess the appropriate number of driving penalty points.

Court is in session after duty hours at Royal Signal Hall, twice a month at 5 p.m.

For those who do shift work, individual hearings may be held.

"It certainly has had an impact on those who have been caught," said Col. John Belser, Fort Gordon staff judge advocate, Headquarters and Company A, 551st Signal Battalion.

Civilians who violate traffic laws on Fort Gordon are taken to the U.S. District Court

where a magistrate will deal with the case.

But that is not the case with military personnel.

Fort Gordon is a federal installation, so the state does not have jurisdiction, said Belser, so we have to police ourselves.

Belser said that prior to the traffic court system being put in place, it was up to unit commanders to deal with traffic violations.

He said some commanders were doing a good job at handling these issues, but some weren't.

He recalled an incident when a Soldier was pulled over, given a citation for speeding, and the Soldier crumpled up the ticket and threw it in the back seat of his vehicle.

"Now that we have these mandatory court sessions, I'm hoping the word is getting out, that if you don't obey the traffic regulations and get caught - you're going to suffer the consequences," said Belser.

Those consequences include going to court, having points issued against the violator's driving license, and if a certain number of points are reached (12 within a year), having driving privileges revoked.

See Traffic Page 13

LandWarNet

from page 1

Soldier, the war-fighter – the center piece of the Army. It will result in greater levels of situational awareness and increase combat power.

“LandWarNet is a process where we synchronize all the things that are taking place across the Army and getting it out to the field in time to make a difference,” said Col. Jeff Smith, U.S Army Signal Center and post deputy commander, who opened up the three-hour session.

Hicks participated in a LandWarNet discussion panel Oct. 26 in Washington, D.C.

“We wanted everybody here listening to the panel to understand that the Army has a network,” said Hicks at the time.

A network that she said, “extends from the flat panel screen at Fort Anywhere, U.S.A. at a home station operation center, through the global information grid out to any theater operation, then down to earth where the battle is being waged” reaching brigades, battalions and companies – right down to the very Soldier in the fox hole.

The network consists of three parts: transport, services and applications.

“Transport, which is the science of big pipes; services that the Defense Information Systems Agency puts on those pipes, called the GIG (Global Information Grid), and the services pulled through those pipes, the kinds of things

commanders need to communicate and facilitate their battle command,” said Hicks.

The LandWarNet Primer was an introductory session to give those in attendance an overview of the LandWarNet,

said Col. Randall Mackey, commandant, Leader College for Information Technology.

“There have been so many changes within the last year, and there are so many changes coming in the next few years, we wanted to kick this year’s symposium off with a session to get everyone on the same sheet of music – to have a common understanding of where we’re at and where we’re going,” said Mackey

Col. Randall Mackey

297th MI Battalion deploys to Iraq

2nd Lt. Christine Moore

Special to the Signal

Soldiers of the 297th Military Intelligence Battalion were honored with a ceremony at Barton Field Nov. 16, for their courage and dedication in preparation to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

Leaders within the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, family members and friends came out to show their support, offer words of encouragement and to say goodbye.

The battalion was formally notified of their deployment by U.S. Forces Command and the Department of the Army in June 2004.

This is the unit’s second rotation for OIF. The soldiers have been sharpening their Soldier Readiness Skills.

Some of their most recent training includes live-fires that integrated shooting on the move, area of responsibility specific intelligence training and intelligence production.

They were the centerpiece of 513th Brigade field training exercise Bold Knight that occurred in August and the troops supported the 18th Airborne Corps Military Readiness Exercise in October.

Family members and friends once again, gathered at 297th MI Bn. to say their last goodbyes before the soldiers entered on the charter buses that would transport them to Bush Field Airport.

As the soldiers began to enter the buses and depart from the battalion, their family and friends continued saying there goodbyes, waving bravely, and shouting I love you as their loved ones departed for the combat



Photo by 2nd Lt. Christine Moore

More than 200 Soldiers from 297th MI Bn. load up on buses to Bush Field Airport in Augusta, Ga. Nov. 17.

zone.

More than 200 Soldiers from 297th MI Bn. deployed to Iraq from Bush Field Airport in Augusta, Ga. Nov. 17.

The 513th MI Brigade is proud to have a battalion like 297th that consists of experienced combat warriors who sincerely understands that freedom is never free, said their commander.

“We’re going to miss these guys because they are a key element to what we do,” said Col. David King, 513th MI Bde. commander.

“I hate to see them go,” said King.

Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

Holiday fire safety from the Fire Prevention Office

Joseph Hamm
Fire Inspector

The Fort Gordon Fire Department wishes each and everyone out there to have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We hope that all goes well during the holiday season, and we would like to provide some information to help you make it Fire Safe. The following tips are good Fire Safety practices for you and your family.

When buying your Christmas Tree, be sure to pick a “fresh” tree. You’ll know it is fresh if the needles are firmly attached. When the tree is in your home, keep plenty of water around the base. A dry tree is the source of more than 1,000 home fires every year! When the holidays are over, take the tree down. Every day it stands in the house, it gets a little drier. If you use an artificial tree, be sure it’s “flame-retardant.”

Be bright about lights!

Don’t use lights with worn insulation, broken plugs and loose sockets. They can cause fires, shocks and even electrocution!

Use lights that bear the label of an independent testing lab.

Throw away sets of lights that have cracked or frayed cords or loose or damaged sockets. Don’t overload electrical outlets or run extension cords under carpets, across doorways, or near heaters.

Be sure extension cords aren’t pinched behind or under furniture.

Never use electric lights on a metal Christmas tree.

Candles. Put candles securely in non-tip candle holders. Keep candles well away from Christmas trees, decorations, curtains, and other com-

bustibles, and never put candles in windows or near exits. Don’t leave candles burning unattended or within the reach of small children, and blow them out before you leave the room or go to sleep.

Be careful when hanging several light strings together. You could have an overload situation. Remember, all lighting inside and out, should be turned off before going to bed!

Space Heaters – keep away from curtains, bedspreads and furniture. Make sure children know they could get burned if they touch one!

Central heating – have furnace installations and all chimneys inspected once a year (before the heating season begins) and cleaned as appropriate or whenever you suspect a problem.

Are the stockings hung from the chimney with care? Be especially careful if there’s a cozy fire going in the fireplace. Speaking of fireplaces, be sure the opening is covered with a sturdy metal screen or heat tempered glass doors.

This reduces the chances of a fire from escaping sparks or wood. Never burn trash or paper in a fireplace; burning paper can float up your chimney and onto your roof or into your yard. Remove ashes in a metal container and don’t store ashes indoors.

Party Safety. Use flame-retardant or non-combustible materials for costumes and decorations. Provide smokers with large, deep, non-tip ashtrays, and keep an eye on anyone who is drinking and smoking. Empty ashtrays often; wet their contents before dumping them.

After the party, check cushions and furniture for smoldering cigarette butts. Supervise children and keep them away from matches, lighters, and candles.

Leave Fireworks to the Professionals. The fireworks that mark the celebrations of the Fourth of July, Chinese New Year, Canada Day, New Year’s Eve, and Mardi Gras are dan-

gerous explosive devices that should never be used by amateurs.

Each year thousands of people, many of them children, are burned, blinded, even disfigured by fireworks.

In addition, fireworks cause fires that cost us millions of dollars in property loss. Warn your children! Teach kids to tell an adult if they find fireworks. It’s too risky to pick them up, especially if they’re smoking, charred, or appear to have been lit.

Legal Doesn’t Mean Safe! Most fireworks injuries are reported in states where they are legal.

Even if the sale and possession of fireworks are not banned in your area, it is simply too dangerous to use them or be around friends who use them.

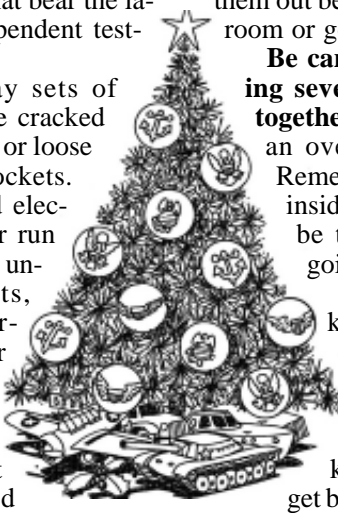
Sparklers may seem harmless, but they aren’t toys. A burning sparkler can reach temperatures of 1200 degrees Fahrenheit, and stay hot long after it’s burned out.

Making your 2004 Holidays a wonderful experience for all is what we all strive to have.

These fire safety tips are here for you to reduce the chance of a holiday disaster!

If you have any questions concerning how to make your Holidays Fire Safe; we insist that you contact us at 791-1204 or 791-4141; but remember, if you have an “**Emergency**” to dial: “**911**” right away!

Happy Holidays from the Fort Gordon Fire Department!



Feedback...

Photos by Spc. Armando Monroig

Wednesday was world AIDS Day. Do you think the public takes AIDS seriously?



I think they are because people are aware of their promiscuity and subsequently making them aware of the danger of AIDS. I think people are aware there is a serious problem with AIDS.

Franklin Paine
Electronic technician



No, I don’t think so – not the young people. From a lot of people that I know and have spoken to, I know there are many still having unprotected sex who don’t think it will happen to them.

Staff Sgt. Salvador Michel
Company B
440th Signal Battalion
Darmsdt, Germany



I think the AIDS disease has faded to the background of our minds. The emphasis is not nearly what it was 10 to 15 years ago. It’s become more of a nuisance or inconvenience than a global health risk and epidemic. I think we’ve become complacent. I don’t see it as a concern in the minds of most of our young Soldiers.

Capt. Michael Zell
Headquarters and
Company A
551st Signal Battalion



I would hope so. I think there is a growing awareness in our country about HIV and AIDS – as far as education in our public school systems. It’s come a long way. I do feel that it is being taken seriously and if they aren’t then they are silly. It’s taken a lot of lives and damaged a lot of families. It’s very important for us to educate ourselves.

Kami Border
full-time student and
Morale, Welfare and
Recreation volunteer



I want to say yes and no. I think, for the most part, people are aware that AIDS is real. However, I think a lot of people are still in the mindset that it won’t happen to them. I’m not sure about the younger generation. A lot of times people say to themselves, ‘they are attractive so they don’t have AIDS.’

Ayanna Wiggins
MWR marketing assistant,
BOSS program advisor



No, I don’t think people are taking AIDS seriously. People are still having unprotected sex. Strangers are still going off with one another.

Staff Sgt. Avis Watson
Company C
447th Signal Battalion

Private Murphy

‘What’s up?’

By Mark Baker



The Signal

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Native American History month highlights some contributions Native Americans have made

Spc. Katrina Nichols
Special to the Signal

Native American Indians have often been portrayed in vintage Hollywood films as warriors. Weren't we all a little afraid as kids watching the tan, lean man with battle paint on his face, braided hair and a crown of feathers; he was both beautiful and mysterious while remaining scary. We always knew he was a worthy enemy as he used his bow and arrow with machine-like precision. We usually saw a very spiritual side of him that we didn't quite understand, which added to the mystery of this enemy.

Plus he had intriguing name that connected him with nature like Crying Wind or Bear Claw. But who was this man really? Hopefully, none of us look to Hollywood for a history lesson, especially since Tinsel Town rarely, if ever, identifies a specific tribe, making the character described a stereotype to cover hundreds of races living in North America thousands of years before Europeans invaded their land. So what happened to this warrior? Many Native American Indians served in the military fighting in almost every American conflict.

One in particular is Cpl. Mitchell Red Cloud Jr., a Winnebago Indian from Wisconsin. The Winnebago tribe was once the most powerful tribe in northeast Wisconsin, living mostly at Red Banks on the shore of Green Bay for centuries. The Winnebago tribe recently changed their name to the Hocak (pronounced Ho-Chunk) Nation because the origin of the word Winnebago meant "people of stinking water" which was never meant as an insult to the people, but as a reference to the algae filled Lake Winnebago. Hocak translates to "people of the big speech." Red Cloud and his two

brothers followed in the foot steps of their father who fought in World War I by joining the armed forces. Red Cloud enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in August 1941 and fought as machine gunner with Carlson's Marine Corps Raiders. During his service with the Marines he was in some of the heaviest fighting in the Pacific Islands at the beginning of World War II. Unfortunately he contracted malaria during that time and received an honorable discharge in 1945. He received two Purple Hearts while serving in the Marines. Three years later, his brother Randall was killed while serving in the Army. After receiving the news, Red Cloud joined the Army and was sent to Korea in 1950 with Company E, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. While Red Cloud was guarding Hill 123, in front of his company command post, he was the first to see the advancing Chinese Communist forces who were less than 100 feet from his post. He was able to alert his unit and maintain his firing position and slow the advancing force. Severely wounded, but Red Cloud refused medical treatment and pulled himself to his feet, wrapped his arm around a tree and continued fighting until he was mortally wounded. Red Cloud received the Medal of Honor for his heroic service during the Korean War in 1950.



Courtesy photo
Cpl. Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr. enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1941 and was honorably discharged in 1945. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1948 and was sent to Korea in 1950.



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Soldiers honor heritage

Soldiers participate in a skit during the 15th Signal Brigade's 2004 Native American Heritage Month celebration Nov. 23 at Alexander Hall. The event's theme "Working to Preserve Cultural Heritage and Tribal Resources," was hosted by the 73rd Ordnance Battalion. Staff sgt. Weldon David Graywolf Smith, Company A, 501st Signal Battalion, the guest speaker at the event, has family ties to the Eastern Band of Cherokee and Lumbee Tribes of North Carolina. Smith has been involved in working to help people better understand how American Indians are a vital part of today's society. Segments of the event covered a slide show depicting the history of Native Americans in the military, code talkers, and the corn husk doll.

"Corporal Red Cloud's dauntless courage and gallant self-sacrifice reflects the highest credit upon himself and upholds the esteemed traditions of the U.S. Army" (Citation, G.O. No.: 26, April 26, 1951.) Red Cloud received many honors after his death. In 1957, on Armed Forces Day, the Army named an installation in Uijongbu City, Korea, after him. Camp Red Cloud is located between Seoul and the Demilitarized Zone.

A rifle range in Fort Benning, Ga was also named after Red Cloud, as well as a park in La Crosse, Wis. He was also the first Winnebago Indian accepted in the American Indian Hall of fame in Anadarko, Okla., as he joins the ranks of other well known Native Americans such as Chief Joseph, Will Rogers, Pocahontas and Jim Thorpe. (Some information for this story was obtained from <http://medalofhonor.com>).

Community Events

The School Yard

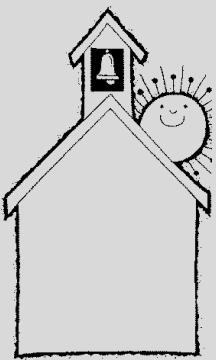
PTA meeting

The Freedom Park Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association meets at 6 p.m. **Dec. 16.** All parents are encouraged to attend.

Holiday celebration time is here

Freedom Park Elementary School is hosting a Holiday Luau for all students at 3:30 p.m. **Friday.** The cost for this event is \$1. Both parents and students are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Beverly Humbert at 796-8428.

For information, go to www.gordon.army.mil/liasvc



Holiday concert

The Annual U.S. Army Signal Corps Band Holiday Concert is at 7 p.m. **today** at the First Baptist Church on Walton Way Extension.

Admission is free and the concert is open to the public.

Comedy mystery

The Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre presents "Passing the Buck," an interactive comedy mystery, **today** and **Saturday.**

Dinner begins at 7 p.m., the show at 8 p.m.

Cost is \$33 for civilians, seniors, retirees, DA civilians, E-8 and above \$31, E-7 and below \$21; show only \$16.

Call 793-8552 for reservations, or go to www.fortgordon.com for information.

Applications due

The Stars of Tomorrow is an Army level talent competition that will take place at Fort Belvoir, Va., Jan. 17-24, and is open to active duty Army personnel.

This is an excellent opportunity for Soldiers to compete in a variety of talent areas at the DA level.

Prize money will be awarded to the installation for winners in each category.

The USA Express is a Top 40 style touring show band open to active duty Army personnel.

Generally composed of deployable Soldiers 18-25, this band will tour to remote locations and deployed Soldiers overseas from Jan. 21 to May.

Interested personnel should contact Steve Walpert by **Tuesday** at walperts@gordon.army.mil or call 793-8552 to set up an audition taping. Applications due Dec. 15.

Tree lighting

The installation's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony is at 6 p.m. **Thursday** in Freedom Park on Rice Road.

The ceremony includes a concert of holiday music by the U.S. Army Signal Corps Band, a visit by Santa Claus and refreshments after the ceremony.

For information call 791-9536.

Job Fair

A college and job fair sponsored by the Youth Challenge Academy and the Fort Gordon Education Center is scheduled for **Tuesday** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Army Reserve Center. For additional information call 791-2000.

Veterans benefits

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service is holding a benefits fair from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. **Tuesday** at the Georgia National Guard Armory, 1015 South Hill Dr. in Griffin, Ga.

Information about education, employment, military records, mortgages and more available. Admission is free.

FEW Holiday auction

The Garden City Chapter of Federally Employed Women is having its annual Christmas party and auction at 11:30 a.m. **Wednesday** in the Gordon Club's Victoria Room. The program includes an auction and door prizes.

Everyone is asked to bring toys or monetary donations for Fort Gordon's Christmas House and Safe Homes of Augusta. New or like new items are needed for the auction. Toys and proceeds from the auction will also be donated to Fort Gordon's Christmas House and Safe Homes.

For information, call or e-mail Shirley Johnson at 791-4551 or johnssha@gordon.army.mil.

College registration

Registration for Paine College classes here for the spring term will be held **Dec. 6-10** and **Jan. 6-10**; classes begin Jan. 10. For information, call 793-2030.

Brunch with Santa

The Gordon Club offers Brunch with Santa from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. **Dec. 12.** Cost is \$12, \$8 for ages 9 and younger. Call 791-2205 for information.

Town Hall meeting

There will be a Town Hall meeting for all TRADOC and IMA civilian employees from 2-4 p.m. **Dec. 16** in Alexander Hall. Maj. Gen. Janet Hicks will address the employees.

For information, call 791-3511.

Holiday jazz

The Signal Corps Jazz Quintet is playing holiday favorites at the Woodworth Community Library from 6-7:30 p.m. **Dec. 16.** For information, call 791-7323 or 791-2449.

Hypnotist

The Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre presents Gary Conrad, Master Hypnotist, at 7 and 9:30 p.m. **Jan. 15.**

Tickets cost \$10; a cash bar will be available. This show is rated PG-13.

Call 793-8552 for reservations, or go to www.fortgordon.com for information.

Volunteers needed

Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers is looking for 15 volunteers to help with the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony **Thursday** at Freedom Park. Volunteers will serve as Santa's Elves and help with photos and refreshments. If interested, e-mail Ayanna Wiggins at wigginsa@gordon.army.mil.

Free tutoring

The Augusta State University Literacy Center offers free tutoring from 4-8 p.m. **Mondays** through **Fridays** (closed Wednesdays).

One-on-one tutoring is available for all ages under the supervision of a certified teacher. Call 733-7043 for information.

Separating servicemembers

If you are within one year of separating or two years of projected retirement from the military, contact the Army Career and Alumni Program.

All servicemembers leaving active duty, with more than 180 days of active service, must receive the congressionally mandated pre-separation counseling.

This counseling, which must take place no later than 90 days prior to separation, covers available transition assistance services, rights and benefits.

To schedule an appointment, call 791-7333, or go to www.gordon.army.mil/dhr/ACAP/acap.htm.

Exodus

The 15th Regimental Signal Brigade is having holiday Exodus **Dec. 16-Jan. 2.**

For information call Capt. Kendra Allen at 791-1191.

ID card hours

Effective **Jan. 6**, the operating hours of the ID Card Section, Military Personnel Services Division, are: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m.; and Friday from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

For information call Sandy Huffman at 791-2914.

Story hour

Woodworth Library is having a Pre-school Story Hour from 11 a.m.-noon each **Wednesday.**

Story hour features a series of fun and encouraging educational activities for

children ages 2-5. Volunteers are welcome. For information, contact Joyce Daniels or Jean Ballejo at 791-7323.

Bariatric group meets

The Bariatric Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. the **second Tuesday** of each month at Eisenhower Army Medical Center in the hospital auditorium on the first floor; the meeting begins at 7 p.m.

The group is open to pre-op and post-op patients, and anyone interested in learning about the surgery.

Call Florrie Cox at 595-8330 for information.

Orientation

A newcomer orientation is held **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** at 1 p.m. in Room 367, Darling Hall.

For more information call 791-3579.

At the Movies

The Signal Theater is open Thursday-Sunday. Shows begin at 6:30 p.m. Children 12 and over and all adults are \$3.50. Children 6-11 are \$1.75. Children under 5 are free. For movie listings and times, call 791-3982.

Dec. 2-5

Thurs. - Team America: World Police (R)

Friday - I Love Huckabees (R)

Saturday - The Grudge (PG-13)

Sunday - I Love Huckabees (R)

Note: Attendance at Fort Gordon's movie theater is strictly limited to authorized Post Exchange patrons.

Decorated houses on display to public

Denise Allen

Signal staff

The refrain of an old song states that "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas," and in the Augusta area this weekend, there are a lot of events designed to make that song come true.

From Christmas home tours to parades to a nativity display fundraiser for the homeless, there are several holiday events planned.

Six festively decorated homes are on the 18th Annual North Augusta Christmas Tour of Homes from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. today and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, according to Linda Smiley, who is a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, event sponsor.

Homes on this year's tour include the homes of Matt and Tina Melton, 407 Shoreline Drive, Charles and Pam Guinn, 409 East Ave., Terrance Leegan and Richard Justice, 919 West Ave., Tim and Cathy Harrington, 39 Cannon Mill Court, Nyles and Juanita Ellefson, 139 Adams Branch Road, and Melinda Gregory, 328 Red Bud Drive.

Tickets are \$18 and may be purchased at any of the homes on the tour.

Proceeds from the tour go toward college scholarships.

Two parades are on tap for Saturday.

Floats, bands and civic organizations will parade through downtown Grovetown beginning at noon Saturday while the city of Graniteville, S.C. will be the site of a parade at 3:30 p.m.

More than 300 nativity scenes will be on display this weekend at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 3131 Walton Way, during the third annual No Room at the Inn.

Nativities from more than 20 countries featuring various designs will fill three rooms at the church.

Scenes range from elaborate Waterford crystal pieces and Fabrege eggs to handmade cloth sets from Chile and carved pieces from Guatemala.

Other scenes are contained in cross-stitch quilts and recycled soft drink cans.

Admission is \$5 per person with a \$15 family maximum.

Proceeds benefit the Interfaith Hospi-

Army science conference attracts field professionals, music video crew

Sgt. Lorie Jewell
Army News Service

ORLANDO, Fla. – Since 1957, the science that makes warfighting possible has brought together top minds in the field for a biennial collective look at new developments and unfolding technologies. About 1,500 government, academic and industry leaders are gathered this week for the 24th Army Science Conference, which for the first time includes participation from allies and coalition partners. Industry and academic partners joined at the last conference, two years ago. Thirty-one countries are represented this year, said John Parmentola, director for research and laboratory management in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology). Fifty-four technologies – from liquid body armor and a nasal-spray painkiller to an artificial exomuscle that may someday be capable of binding wounds or giving cardiopulmonary resuscitation – are also highlighted in the conference exhibit hall. The focus this year is on the needs of the current force, as well as speeding up future force technologies, according to conference officials. Technologies like miniaturization and virtual reality will become common in the near future, said Ray Kurzweil, founder and chief executive officer of

Kurzweil Technologies, Inc. Kurzweil, who was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2002, was the principal developer of first-ever technologies: the omni-font optical character recognition, print-to-speech reading machine for the blind, CCD flat-bed scanner, text-to-speech synthesizer, music synthesizer capable of recreating the grand piano and other orchestral instruments and commercial large-vocabulary speech recognition. Human knowledge of information technology, computer technology and health science is doubling annually, he said. In nearly every area, “we are experiencing exponential growth in knowledge.” Sgt. Major of the Army Kenneth Preston thanked the scientists, engineers and others whose work has led to technologies currently being used in conflict areas like Iraq and Afghanistan. Remote-controlled robots, for example, are aiding in investigating suspicious items that may contain improvised explosive devices. Soldiers can check the items from a safe distance, greatly reducing the threat of death or injury, Preston said. A large balloon that looms over Victory Base in Baghdad is a floating platform that houses a J Lens system that allows Soldiers to view large sections of the city surrounding them, he added. Improved body armor like small arms

protective inserts, also known as SAPI plates, are also making a big difference, Preston said. “I’ve seen first hand the technology that many of you helped design that’s keeping our Soldiers alive,” Preston said. “Their success is, in many ways, your success.” Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard Cody gave an update on Army transformation from the Pentagon through video teleconferencing. The Honorable Michael Wynne, Acting Undersecretary for Defense (Acquisition, Technology and

Logistics), also used the technology to address the audience. When asked to name three top problems the Army would like scientists and engineers to prioritize, Cody asked for more work on intelligence-gathering technology that gives battlefield commanders more concise and quickly-understood information; technology that allows vehicles and equipment to consume less fuel and generate more water; and more tactical mobility and agility in the Future Combat Systems. A New York City-based production crew from the music

television video channel MTV2 is also at the conference, with a handful of other media, to document the conference for a new show called High Tech Theater that will debut in February. The show will highlight the latest in technology, targeting male viewers aged 12 to 24, said producer Jodi Lahaye. The crew is focusing on military technology that will also make its way into the ci-

vilian market, said creative director Shawn Mattaro. Bendable television screens – officially known as flexible display technology – medical robots and holographics have caught the crew’s attention. Clips of their footage will air over a three-month span, Mattaro said. “What better place to come?” Lahaye said. “The Army has the coolest stuff, clearly.”



Photo by Spc. Lorie Jewell

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston tours the exhibit area of the 24th Army Science Conference with a group of Soldiers Nov. 29. The conference, held every two years, brings together government, industry and educational professionals who work to advance Army science and technology.

New homes for 2nd ID’s canine pals

Seth Robson
Stars and Stripes

CAMP RED CLOUD, South Korea — Some furry friends are headed for the United States to welcome Strike Force (the 2nd Infantry Division’s 2nd Brigade Combat Team) soldiers when they return from Iraq. Area I veterinarian Capt. Michelle Jefferson said last week that several Strike Force mascots will be transported to the States in the coming months, and some will rejoin the unit when it moves to Fort Carson, Colo., next year. Area I is home to numerous official and unofficial mascots. Some are strays at Camp Casey and, until recently, there were as many as 30 dogs living in the Joint Security Area, a tiny base in the heart of the demilitarized zone, she said. Fourteen official Strike Force mascots, all dogs, were left behind when Strike Force deployed to Iraq in August. Eight of the mascots are still in Area I being cared for by the rear detachments of units serving in Iraq, she said. Four mascots already have been transported to the States. Another has been adopted by a Strike Force soldier’s family and is awaiting transport, Jefferson said. “Units will send some dogs back to the States to meet with the units at Fort Carson and some soldiers are going to adopt the mascots when they PCS (permanent change of station) from here,” she said. The Strike Force mascots have been exempted from the normal

adoption fee, which equates to paying for the dog’s medical bills for the 24 months prior to adoption, she said. A soldier’s family in Tennessee has adopted Anthrax, a large mixed-breed dog that was the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment mascot, she said. When a soldier wants to take a dog home from South Korea, the dog normally gets to fly space-available, free of charge, from Osan, Jefferson said.

“This dog is a sweet dog. Crigg was found during (an exercise) in August. One of the dog handlers brought him to us.”

Capt. Michelle Jefferson,
Area I veterinarian

However, because Anthrax, who weighs 207 pounds, was too big to fly back to the States, the family who adopted him hired a special shipping container, she said. Three Strike Force mascots were sent to the adoption clinic at Yongsan Garrison in Seoul, Jefferson said. A veterinarian working at Yongsan adopted a large Saint Bernard named Crigg that was the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment mascot, she said. “This dog is a sweet dog. Crigg was found during (an exercise) in

August. One of the dog handlers brought him to us. “Basically he just walked up to him. There were only two Saint Bernards in Area I so we know who it was. From what I heard he was at Camp Hovey where the soldiers used to live. His demeanor was fine, so somebody was taking care of him,” Jefferson said. Capt. Srinivasan Saiprasad, commander of the 82nd Engineer Company, is looking after Bruno, another large former Strike Force mascot, who belonged to Charlie Company, 44th Engineers. Saiprasad, who served with the 44th on a previous posting to South Korea, was quick to volunteer to care for Bruno when he heard the dog needed a home. He even knows Bruno’s lineage, which relates him to another famous 2nd ID mascot named MRE. “We found out two days prior to Company C getting on the bus. He has got a lot of friends here (at the 82nd),” he said. While with the 82nd, Bruno has been hanging out with Cadence, a golden retriever that is the unit’s official mascot. “The dogs go running with us when we do PT on post. Before Cadence got clipped by a car she used to do six-mile road marches with us,” Saiprasad said. Bruno has been adopted by a soldier’s family and will be sent back to the United States, he said. But because the dog is so large, its plane ticket costs more than it would cost a person to fly there, he added.

To forgive is divine

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dan Payne
Special to the Signal

“Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.” Luke 6:37 Do you give much thought to forgiveness? Fr. Lawrence Martin Jenco would agree with writer Norman Cousins when he said: “Life is an adventure in forgiveness.” Fr. Jenco traveled to Beirut, Lebanon, in 1984, dedicating himself to helping the poor. Jan. 8, 1985, he was kidnapped by a group of Shiite Muslim extremists and held hostage for 564 days. During his captivity he suffered beatings, illness and terrible periods of loneliness and sorrow. He tells about being taped like a mummy from his ankles to the top of his head every time he was moved from one place to another. He tells of times when his captors said they were going to kill him and waited for the bullet to enter his head from the

gun that was tightly pressed against it. Other times he was dressed up and told he was going home only to have his spirits dashed when they later told him they were only kidding. Several years later he wrote a book and told not only his experiences in captivity, but also about the power of love and forgiveness. “Just look at the madness that goes on in the world today. “We lug our hates and our bigotry and prejudices from generation to generation and we pass them on...we must stop and look at each other and say, ‘I am sorry for the hurt I caused you. “I ask your forgiveness.’ And then we must extend forgiveness and receive forgiveness. Somewhere along the line we are going to have to do that. “We’re all bound to forgive,” said Jenco. Genuine forgiveness is crucial if we are to be at peace. Whether or not it restores a broken relationship, it sets our own heart free. Is there anyone you need to forgive?

Drill sergeant spotlight

Name: Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Sheffield
Unit: Company C, 551st Signal Battalion
Hometown: Leesburg, Ga.
Time at Fort Gordon: Three years

What do you enjoy about being a DS? I enjoy motivating and mentoring Soldiers to accomplish the mission safely, efficiently and effectively.

What do you want to accomplish in the Army? I want to get my Bachelor’s degree, complete my Army career, and achieve the highest rank I can, while serving my country both faithfully and diligently.



Sgt. 1st Class Sheffield

Why I serve: Soldier fights way to Iraq



Courtesy photo

Spc. Brian Williams is assigned to B Company, 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment, of the New York National Guard. Williams was found to be “unfit for duty” and “non-deployable” due to a blood disease. Williams appealed the decision and won.

**American Forces
Press Service**

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ORYAN, Iraq – A year ago, New York National Guardsman Spc. Brian Williams was ready to deploy to Iraq with his unit.

In his quest to serve, however, he hit a major snag: Medical tests revealed he had a condition rendering him medically “unfit for duty.”

The Saranac Lake, N.Y., resident, like many of his north country National Guard brethren, answered the call to active duty last year in support of ongoing efforts in Iraq.

Williams gathered with his fellow soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment early in October 2003 at the Morrisonville Army National Guard Armory. He said goodbye to his wife Kim, their three children Amber, Lauren and Brendan, and then got on the bus for the first leg of his long journey to Iraq.

He expected to do the normal processing at Fort Drum and to train up prior

to deployment. But medical screening detected Williams had a blood disease called hemochromatosis: a condition in which the liver is unable to readily process iron in the body.

Untreated, the excess iron in William’s system would eventually lead to an enlarged liver and diabetes.

The doctors explained that in order to keep the hemochromatosis in check, and his blood’s iron saturation level normal, he would have to have a pint of blood drawn from his body every two months.

This process would rid his body of the built up excess iron in his bloodstream.

The simple question then became whether Williams was deployable with the condition. So the clock started. Williams waited for three long months on medical hold status while his fellow soldiers trained for Iraq.

Williams spent his time serving as the assistant training NCO for the Ground Support Unit at

Fort Drum while waiting for his case to be reviewed by an Army medical evaluation board.

Finally, in May, the evaluation board determined that the hemochromatosis rendered Spc. Williams “unfit for duty” and therefore “non-deployable.”

When Williams learned of the decision, he did not react as one might expect: Rather than to be content and to return to his family and civilian life, he filed an appeal.

The appeal went forward. In August, after an appointment with a hematologist at Walter Reed the moment of truth arrived: Williams learned that he had won the appeal.

The hematologist determined that there were adequate facilities in Iraq to care for Williams’ condition and the previous “non-deployable” status would be amended to read “deployable.”

Last month, a full year after activation, Williams finally reunited with his fellow Bravo Company soldiers in Iraq. And on his second mission, his quick reaction to enemy fire earned him the Combat Infantryman Badge.

(Based on a Task Force Danger and 1st Infantry Division news release.)

*Give the Gift of life this holiday season
- Donate blood*

Contact Kendrick Memorial Blood Center at 787-1014

Soldiers to incite laughter from troops at U.S. history’s expense

Tim Hipps

Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — BRAVO! Army Theatre Touring Company will present “The Complete History of America (abridged)” during a four-month installation tour to entertain troops, starting at Fort Belvoir’s Wallace Theater today and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

The 90-minute play by Adam Long, Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor is an intellectual, vaudeville-style, slapstick comedic account of the past 500 years in American history.

The four-Soldier ensemble will perform at Afghanistan, Alaska, Bahrain, Cuba, Hawaii, Honduras, Kuwait, Qatar and several domestic military installations, capped by a season finale at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, D.C.

“The play is very silly, right up my alley,” said Spc. Donnie George, a signal support systems specialist at Fort Sill, Okla., making his acting debut. “We just go through major events in American history and kind of poke fun at it. We may actually teach somebody something so there are a lot of positive things coming out of this – anything to get a good laugh.”

The purpose of Theatre BRAVO!, which is entering its sixth season, is not only to entertain but to inspire commanders to establish and support music and theater activities for Soldiers on their installations. BRAVO! also plays an important role in the Arts in Education program via performances at secondary schools.

“It gives people an idea of what’s available, as far as opportunities to pursue acting,” said Marcy Stennes, director, community recreation directorate, U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria, Va. “This gives us a chance to show what can be done. It also gives the audiences an opportunity to see if it’s something they



Photo by Tim Hipps

Staff Sgt. Joseph Madison and Spc. Donnie George perform in BRAVO! Army Theatre’s “The Complete History of America (abridged).” The 90-minute play is scheduled to open today at 7:30 p.m. at Wallace Theater on Fort Belvoir, Va., before the four-Soldier ensemble takes the show on a four-month tour to entertain troops.

would like to have [on their installation].”

With a small cadre of performers, BRAVO! can entertain Soldiers deployed in remote areas where large groups, such as the U.S. Army Soldier Show, can not venture with a tractor-trailer full of accessories.

One such performer is Staff Sgt. Joseph Madison, who started acting 15 years ago. The mental health specialist from Victoria, Texas, auditioned for a dinner theatre production of “Barefoot in the Park” at Fort Gordon, Ga., which ultimately landed him a role in the play.

“It had been so long since I had done anything [with acting] that it never occurred to me that I should audition for it,” said Madison, who played in a dozen high school and community theatre productions before joining the Army in 1989. “This is an incredible opportunity

and it’s a vitally important mission.”

The Soldiers had to submit a videotape with a three-minute monologue, a Broadway song and other film snippets before auditioning live Nov. 6 at Fort Belvoir. They started rehearsing two days later.

“This turns out to be a win-win situation because I’m getting to do something that I really want to do,” said George, a Cincinnati native, “and I’m getting to boost the morale of Soldiers.”

“If you don’t use it, you have a tendency to lose it,” said Spc. James Dreussi, an active Army Reservist from Columbus, Ohio. “That’s why I was excited to hear about BRAVO! I might not be the most comedic person in the world but if I can at least get [Soldiers’] mind off of what’s going on for the moment, I really feel honored to give them that opportunity.”

‘Passing the Buck’ comes to Fort Gordon

Denise Allen

Signal staff

Audience members will do more than watch the next event at Fort Gordon’s Dinner Theatre – they may have to help carry out a dead body or two.

On Friday and Saturday, “Passing the Buck,” an interactive comedy/mystery will be presented at the dinner theatre.

Dinner will be at 7 p.m. with the show following at 8 p.m.

“We met the creators last summer,” said Steve Walpert, dinner theatre director at the Nov. 17 Community Information Briefing at the Gordon Club.

“They write a premise unique to the location,” added Walpert.

The premise of this show is a retirement party for Col. Rudolph Buck. Secrets will be revealed among the guests gathered, and a few of the partygoers may not make it through the evening.

Buck is retiring from the Army after 25 years to join the

Department of Treasury. He has been tinkering with inventions for years, but one invention holds promise.

Ken Freehill and Darryl Allara wrote “Passing the Buck” and have been writing interactive mysteries at military installations for several years.

Making up the group are party-goers will be members of the military and their families and civilians.

There are plenty of plot twists along the way.

Throughout the play, the audience members will be invited to use their skills of deduction, reason and observance.

Tickets are \$33 for civilians, \$31 for Department of the Army civilians, retirees, seniors, active duty E8 and above, \$21 for active duty E7 and below and \$16 for the show only. Cabaret seating for the show only begins at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call 793-8552 or visit www.fortgordon.com



Courtesy graphic

Training on biological warfare agents

Caree Vander Linden
American Forces Press Service

FORT DETRICK, Md.,— The narrow gravel path leads to a cluster of mobile tactical shelters at Fort Detrick's "Area B," 400 acres of farmland on this Maryland base. A brown sign marks the Field Identification of Biological Warfare Agents, or FIBWA, Laboratory Training Site. Two laboratories, each with four workstations, adjoin a central tactical shelter that serves as a conference room.

In this nondescript setting, eight students at a time learn to set up, maintain, and operate a deployable laboratory under field conditions. The four-week, hands-on FIBWA course offers training in the most advanced field technologies for confirming identification of biological-warfare agents.

Developed by the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, FIBWA is the only course of its kind in the Defense Department.

According to Mark Wolcott, head of the field operations and training branch within USAMRIID's diagnostic systems division, FIBWA grew out of the need for battlefield detection of biological warfare agents. As field detectors were developed and deployed, the ability to confirm what the detectors were "seeing" was crucial to add confidence for battlefield, medical, and National Command Authority decisions.

The requirement for a deployable BW agent confirmation laboratory

was born.

Since the FIBWA course was first offered in 1999, nearly 200 students from the military services and other government agencies have attended. To ensure that the training stays on the cutting edge, concepts of operations and diagnostic materials, equipment and technology are continually evaluated and transitioned into the field.

Bill Dorman is the FIBWA training coordinator. A former noncommissioned officer, he came on board as a civilian during the first course in 1999. At that time, USAMRIID had put together a laboratory/training package at the request of U.S. Central Command, which wanted its own full-time lab capability. The demand grew, and there are now six laboratories under five major commands.

"The course is unfunded," said Dorman, "so everyone who comes has to pay their own way." The cost — \$7,000 per student for the four-week course — means "we get a select few," he added.

The course's first two days are spent largely in the classroom. Students receive an overview of the history of biological warfare, along with briefings on laboratory concepts, current techniques, field laboratory operations and the fundamentals of biological safety.

Next, they spend nine days learning how to extract genetic material — deoxyribonucleic acid and ribonucleic acid, or DNA and RNA — from multiple sample types, along with a technique called polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, which is used to

identify the extracted DNA and RNA.

"Sensitivity" and "specificity" are two frequently heard buzzwords in the field of medical diagnostics. Sensitivity refers to the ability to detect even a small amount of biological agent in a sample. Specificity is the ability to detect a particular agent. Both are critical. According to Dorman, if a testing agent is not sensitive enough, false negatives can result; if it's not specific enough, false positives can happen.

One component of the FIBWA training is "real time" PCR using an instrument called the "Ruggedized Advanced Pathogen Identification Device," which was specially designed for military field labs. RAPID is a portable, impact-resistant package about the size of a briefcase that offers quick, safe and accurate field identification of potentially dangerous pathogens.

Sgt. Sean Brown, from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., is a microbiologist with clinical laboratory and blood bank experience. "Pretty cool!" he said when asked to describe the FIBWA course. "I love the field work. It's a lot of fun."

Having a good grasp of molecular biology helped, said Brown, who had done PCR before but enjoyed being trained on the latest instruments.

"Getting to work with the real agents is the most surprising aspect of the course", he said, though he was quick to add that all bacteria and viruses are deactivated before students handle them.

During the course, students take both written and practical exams. The true test, however, comes during the

final week of the course, when they perform a field training exercise. According to Dorman, this provides an opportunity to integrate the course material with real-world scenarios that challenge the students' understanding and skills.

Participants are given five scenarios to respond to and must set up and operate a lab under field conditions. Working together as a team, they develop and implement a test plan based on the sample type and information received with each scenario.

They are then expected to analyze the sample, troubleshoot any problems that may arise, and provide a final

identification, if any, to the instructor.

Army Pfc. Kelly Miller, from Fort Eustis, Va., works in a hospital clinical laboratory and said she finds the FIBWA focus on environmental samples "totally different." Unlike a clinical lab, she said, "out here you don't realize you messed up until you get your results back. In the field we would have to do it over; in the classroom, we try to figure out where the error occurred."

"You have to put together everything you learned in the past three weeks, in one week!" Miller exclaimed.



Photo by Steve Ferendo

Army Spc. Kelly Miller runs a test to identify a substance during a course in field identification of biological warfare agents.

Army updates sexual assault policy

Sgt. 1st Class Shaun Herron
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — New Army guidance on sexual assault prevention and response was released Nov. 12, and will be included in the upcoming revision of AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, in 2005.

The new guidance is one of several steps the Army has recently taken to re-emphasize that any offense of sexual assault is inconsistent with Army Values and Warrior Ethos, officials said.

In addition to the new policy guidance for commanders, the Army has

launched a Web site at www.sexualassault.army.mil, to promote steps leaders and Soldiers at all levels can take to prevent and respond to instances of potential sexual assault. Included in this Web site are links to training materials developed by Training and Doctrine Command.

Sexual assault prevention training will be part of initial entry training, semi-annual training, installation in-processing and pre-deployment training for all Soldiers. The website also includes links to additional resources for victims of sexual assault, and a checklist for commanders to

help the recovery of sexual assault victims.

The newly launched Sexual Assault Web site and incorporation of the new Army guidance into AR 600-20 reinforces Army leadership's ongoing commitment to ensuring that adequate prevention programs and policies are in place, said Col. Paris Mack, chief, Human Factors Division, Human Resources & Policy Directorate, G-1.

It will also ensure that soldiers who are victims of sexual assault receive proper treatment, medical and psychological care; that the chain of command will provide full

support, dignity and confidentiality to victims; and that any reported incidents of sexual assault will be, "fully investigated and acted upon through the military criminal justice system," Mack said.

These efforts are the first steps at incorporating the recommendations of an Army task force that conducted a 90-day detailed review of the Army's policies and programs on sexual assault. That task force issued an 80-page report with 24 recommendations to improve the system.

When looking for ways to improve the Army's policies and programs, the task

force sought advice from outside agencies to include the Department of Veteran Affairs; National Organization of Victim Assistance; Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN); The Miles Foundation; Navy; Coast Guard; the University of Arizona and Purdue University in Indiana.

Both universities were given grants from the De-

partment of Justice for their prevention programs, and the age category for Soldiers who report assaults and their assailants are in the same age category as the university students. Nearly 84 percent of alleged perpetrators were identified as junior Soldiers, and 95 percent of the victims were Soldiers in the rank of staff sergeant and below.

Traffic from page 3

Appearance at the traffic hearing sessions became effective Sept. 1, by order of Maj. Gen. Janet A. Hicks, Fort Gordon and U.S. Army Signal Center commanding general, said Belser.

"If Soldiers fail to appear to this court, they are violating a general order," said Belser.

"Which of course subjects them to UCMJ punishment — Article 15s, court martial," he said.

Like any new process, there are going to be growing pains, said Belser, but overall things are going well.

Most of the cases in traffic court are for speeding and minor infractions such as not coming to a complete stop at a stop sign and expired vehicle registration, just to name a few.

Although more serious driving offenses such as driving under the influence, reckless driving and speeding in a school zone are dealt with at the traffic court as well, they are sent to the command for appropriate punishment under the UCMJ.

The majority of the traffic violators are young service members, on average, 18-25 year-old males, mostly



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Capt. Veronica Hansen, traffic hearing officer, speaks to a traffic law violater as he approaches the bench at the court room of Royal Signal Hall.

lower enlisted, said Capt. Jody Myatt, officer-in-charge of the military traffic hearings program on Fort Gordon.

However, he added there are people of all ranks, ages and services appearing at the traffic court.

Myatt said the program seems to be working due to the sharp decline in offenders seen in court — beginning at 80 and recently dropping to 50.

Only those ticketed for moving violations are required to attend the hear-

ing, said Myatt.

"Now we have a more accurate process to make sure that the points people are awarded are documented," said Belser.

"Driving on post is a privilege, not a right," he added.

Although it may be too early to tell, Belser said the traffic court system has had a positive impact on traffic on post and that people seem to be taking it more seriously.

Sports & Leisure

Sports UPDATE

BOSS is looking for Volunteers

Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BOSS) is looking for 15 volunteers to help with the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony **Thursday** at Freedom Park.

Volunteers will serve as Santa's Elves and help with photos and refreshments. For more information or to volunteer e-mail Ayanna Wiggins at wigginsa@gordon.army.mil.

Bowling

Holiday hours at Gordon Lanes are as follows:

Exodus: 10 a.m. - normal closing times except for the following days. Normal closing times are 11:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday, 1:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and 11 p.m. Sunday.

Dec. 24: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dec. 25: Closed
Dec. 31: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
New Year's Eve Party: 8 p.m. - 2 a.m.

For more information, call 791-3446.

Bataan memorial march

The 2005 Bataan Memorial Death March is **March 20** at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

Information and registration is available at www.bataanmarch.com. There is a limit of 4,000 marchers.

The 26.2-mile march varies in elevation from about 4,100 to 5,300 feet.

The event is open to military (active duty, reserve, National Guard, ROTC, JROTC or retired) and civilian teams and individuals in either heavy or light divisions.

Military personnel marching in any military category must wear full field gear. All marchers entered in heavy division categories must also carry a 35-pound rucksack.

Teams must consist of five people. All five marchers must cross the finish line together. Cost is \$40 for individuals and \$150 for a team.

Deadlines are Feb. 19 for entry forms received by mail, Feb. 25 for entries received by fax and March 10 for on-line registration.

For information call (505)678-1256 or (505)678-1134, or e-mail bataan@wsmr.army.mil.

Contest

The 2005 Army Entertainment Stars of Tomorrow is an Army level talent competition to take place at Fort Belvoir, Va., January 17-24 and is open to active duty Army personnel. Prize money will be awarded to the installation for winners in each category. For more information, call 793-8552

Tryouts

2005 USA Express Army Touring Band is a top 40's touring show band open to active duty Army personnel. Generally composed of deployable Soldiers 18-25, this band tours remote locations and perform for deployed Soldiers overseas January 21 - mid May. For additional information, contact Steve Walpert at 793-8552 or by e-mail at walperts@gordon.army.mil.

Thriller championship game ends season

Spc. Armando Monroig
Signal Staff

It was a cold night on Fort Gordon Monday but the weather didn't stop the post flag football championship game from getting heated as the 252nd Signal Company "Renegades" defeated Eisenhower Army Medical Center's team 12-6 at Field 2.

The championship team ended their season with a record of 22-3.

Scott Campbell had a big play on a fourth down run for a touchdown as he dove into the end zone during the first half.

Vincent Thompson had a touchdown reception with 30 seconds left for the game winning score on 4th down.

Courtney Henderson, 252nd Signal Company commander, played triple-duty as team coach, wide receiver and defensive back.

"Playing together as a team, staying confident when things were at their worst, understanding the concept of the game," Henderson said were keys to his teams success this season. "And a lot of Icey Hot."

He said everyone one on the team contributed to the team's success this season, but Campbell's play was the glue that held this team together.

Big performers in the championship game were Hinton, Vincent Thompson, Scott Campbell, and Maurice Greening.

Henderson said it was a

tough season with tough competition.

"It was very challenging at times, brutal to your body sometimes playing four to five games a week, but you have to love the game," he said.

He added that DDEAMC was more than a worthy adversary in the championship game.

"We already knew they were a tough team. This was our fourth time playing them this season and every game was a fight," said Henderson.

"DDEAMC has an outstanding team with speed, youth, and athletes. They were most definitely the team that should have been playing for the championship game," he added.

"It feels good to beat such a talented team like DDMEAC," said Greening adding that the team was disciplined on defense and offense."

Now the 252nd Signal Company "Renegades" will cap off their season by representing the Army in the 4th Annual Army/Navy flag football game Saturday at the Richmond County Academy Field with kick-off at noon.

"It just feels good to be able to represent the Army, to play against the Navy this weekend," said Greening. "We had an overall good season, we couldn't ask for a better finish."

"EAMC has a great football team and they fought hard to defend their title but now the title belongs to the Renegades," said Thompson.

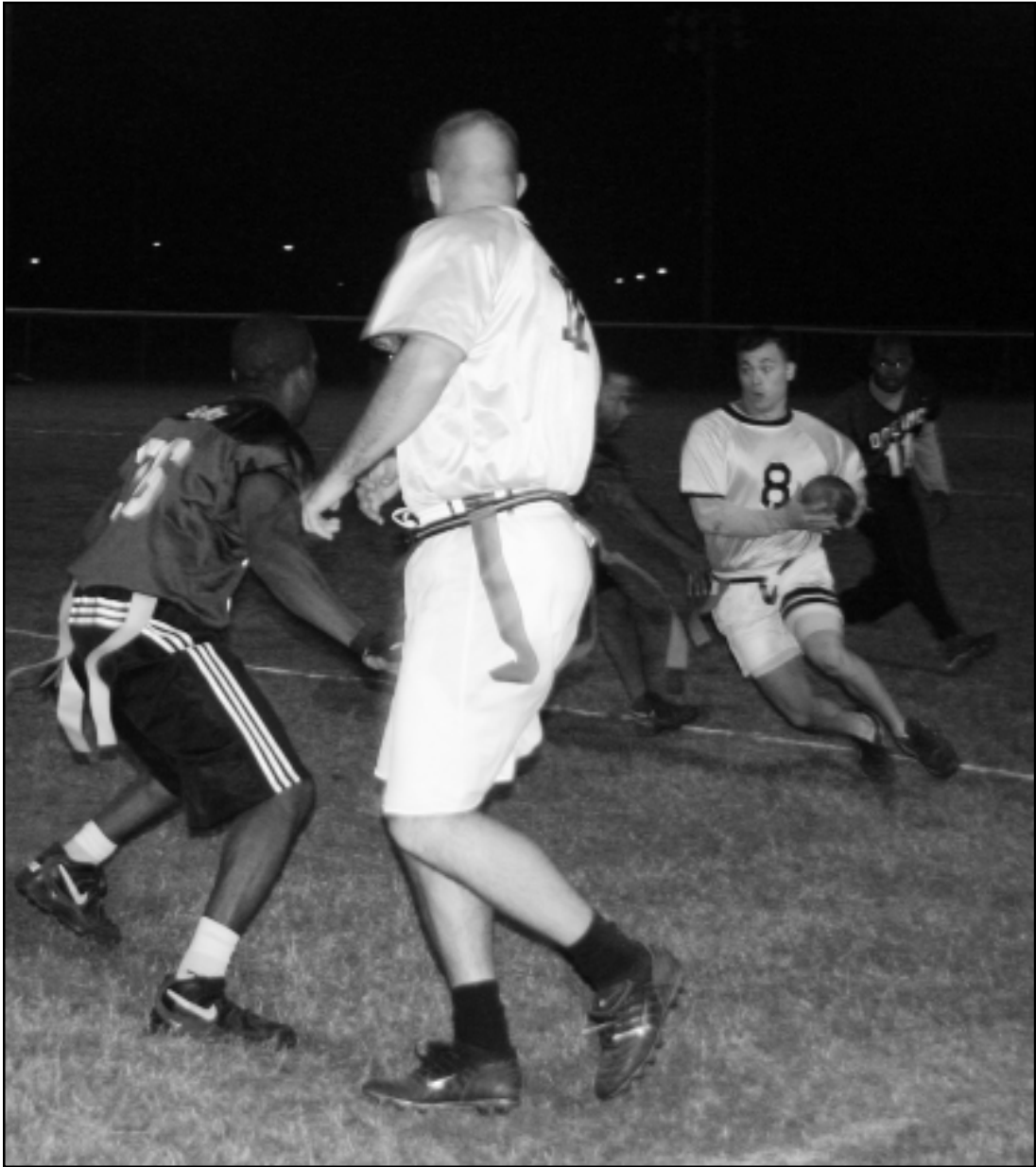


Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Scott Campbell, (number 8) quarterback for the 252nd Signal Company, runs for a gain during one of his many scrambles. The Renegades won the championship game 12-6.

73rd Ordnance Company takes women's flag football title

Spc. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

Women's Flag Football championship action came to an exciting climax as Company C, 73rd Ordnance Battalion defeated Naval Security Group Activity 12-7 to win the post title.

The 2004 season began Sept. 14 with eight teams in the division. During the regular season three teams were removed due to forfeiting two or more games.

At the end of the regular season, NSGA was the number one team in the Women's Division with C-73rd in fourth place.

The post championships kicked off Nov. 1 with a double elimination tournament.

On Nov. 8, C-73 met NSGA to see who would claim the Fort Gordon 2004 Women's Flag Football trophy.

The championship game kicked off as C-73rd drew first blood by scoring but missed the extra point.

Navy responded by taking the ball up the field and scoring. Navy ran a sweep around the left end for the extra point.

At half-time the score was NSGA 7, C-73rd, 6.

Going into the fourth quarter it appeared that NSGA was going to come out of the loser bracket and send the championships into an "if" game, but C-73rd refused to quit.

With four minutes to go in the game, C-73rd came back and scored, but missed the extra point.

When the dust settled, it was C-73rd winning by the score of 12-7.

"Our key to victory in the championship was team-



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Members of Fort Gordon's Women's Flag Football Championship team, Company C, 73rd Ordnance Battalion, pose for a team photo showing off their trophy in front of their barracks. (From left to right) Tamara Arnold, offense/defensive lineman, Keishawna Wright, wide receiver, middle linebacker, Margie Churchin, offense/defensive lineman, Kim Sapp, center/defensive lineman, Nicole Jordan, wide receiver/cornerback, Kathy Cade, quarterback/freesafety, and Reginald Ewing, coach (Not pictured are Anthony Lewis, assistant coach, Ellison Hughes, cornerback/wide receiver, and Mikkia Newsome, middle linebacker).

work, never-quit attitude and execution," said Reginald Ewing, a drill sergeant assigned to Company C, 73rd Ord. Bn.

Two of the team's biggest plays came in the last two minutes of the game when C-73rd's quarterback Kathy Cade hit Keishawna Wright across the middle of the field on a slant route to get the first down they needed to keep the drive alive.

On yet another play, Cade struck a bull's-eye pass across the middle to Wright who scored the winning touchdown.

"We lost players due to graduation and just kept hearing that we could not win because the Air Force and Navy always won - but our Soldiers were determine to prove them wrong," said Ewing.

Two key players for the

team were Cade, quarter back and free-safety; and Wright, wide receiver, who made big plays when they were needed.

"At the very beginning of the season we were terrible," said Wright.

"But with team work, we became very good," she said.

Cade agreed saying "We did better as the season progressed."

Ewing said the competition was challenging down to the

last few seconds of the game.

"The competition was very determined to regain what they thought was already theirs because they gave our team a very, very good bruising," Ewing said of his team's opponent.

But Cade said her team's willingness to follow directions, listen to the coaches and execute on their advice is what brought the title home for C-73rd.

15th Signal Brigade Regimental Run

Welcome Home Signal Corps

Starting the day on the ‘right foot’



Photo by Staff Sgt. Pamela Lyons

(Above) Running and singing cadance all the way, Soldiers keep pace as their drill sergeant motivates them. (Below) Capt. William Platte, secretatary of general staff, poses for the camera.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Pamela Lyons



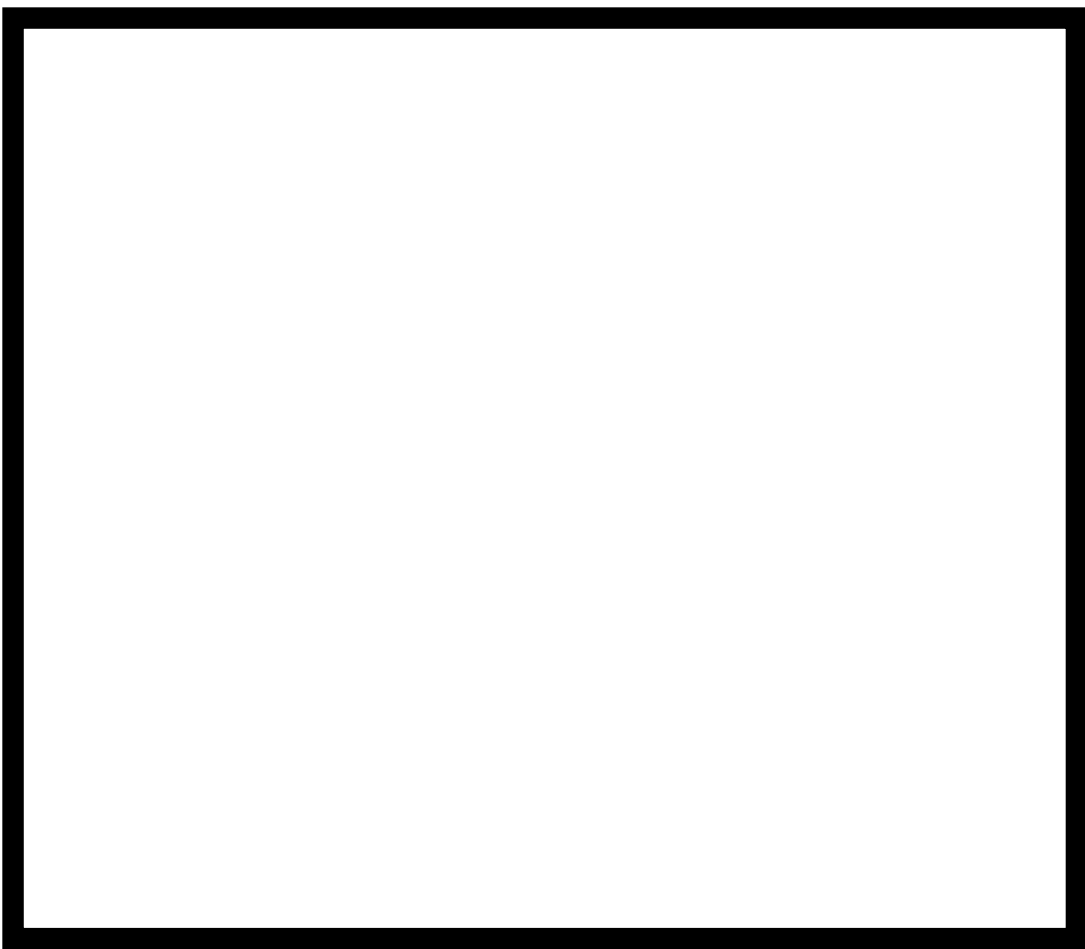
Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Col. Lori Sussman, 15th Signal Brigade commander, leads the way during the annual 15th Signal Brigade Regimental Run, Tuesday as part of the 32nd Signal Symposium week-long events.

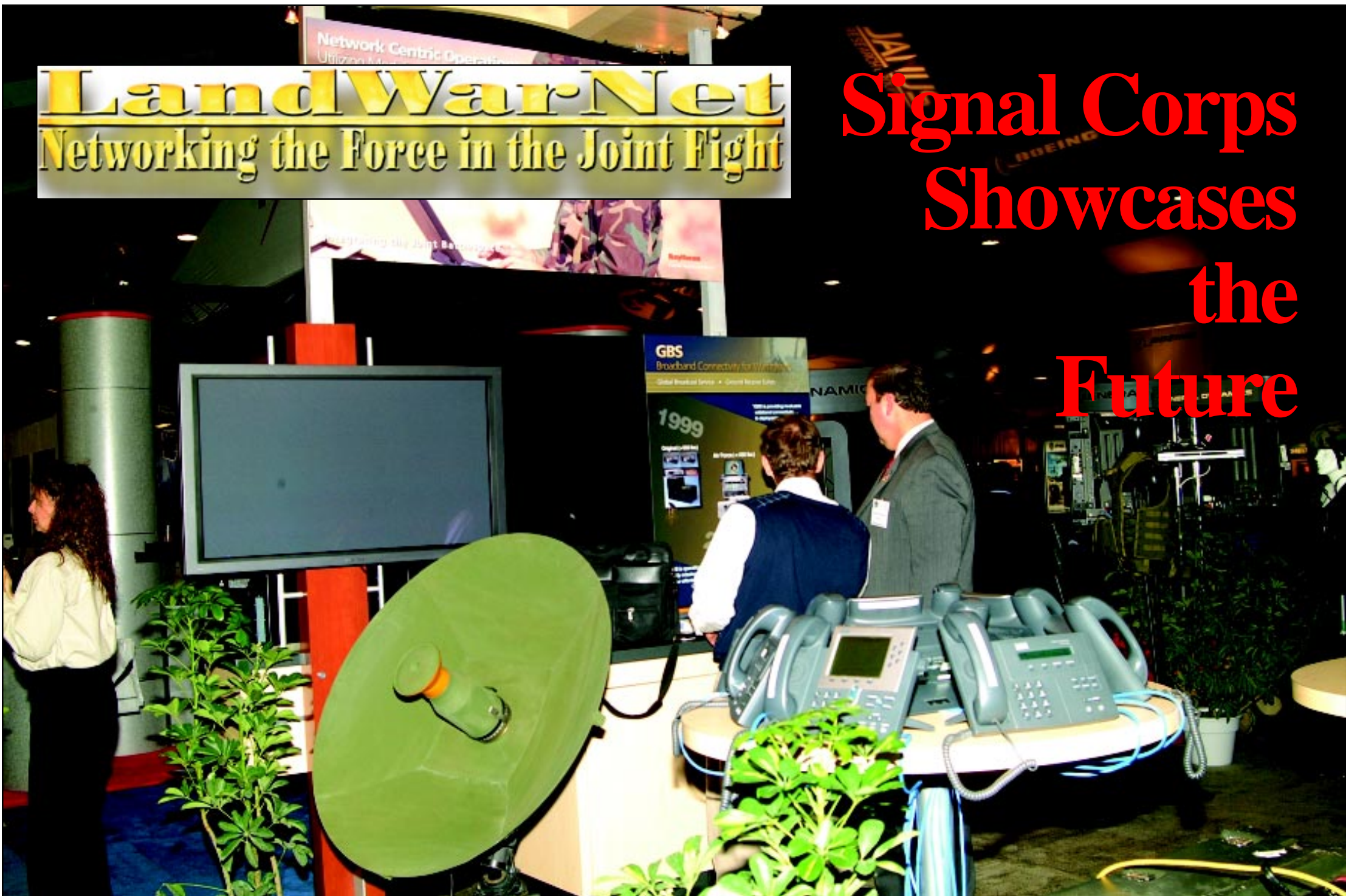


Photo by Staff Sgt. Pamela Lyons

(Above) Command Sgt. Maj. Clark Dimery, HHC U.S. Army Garrison command sergeant major, participates in the 15th RSB run.



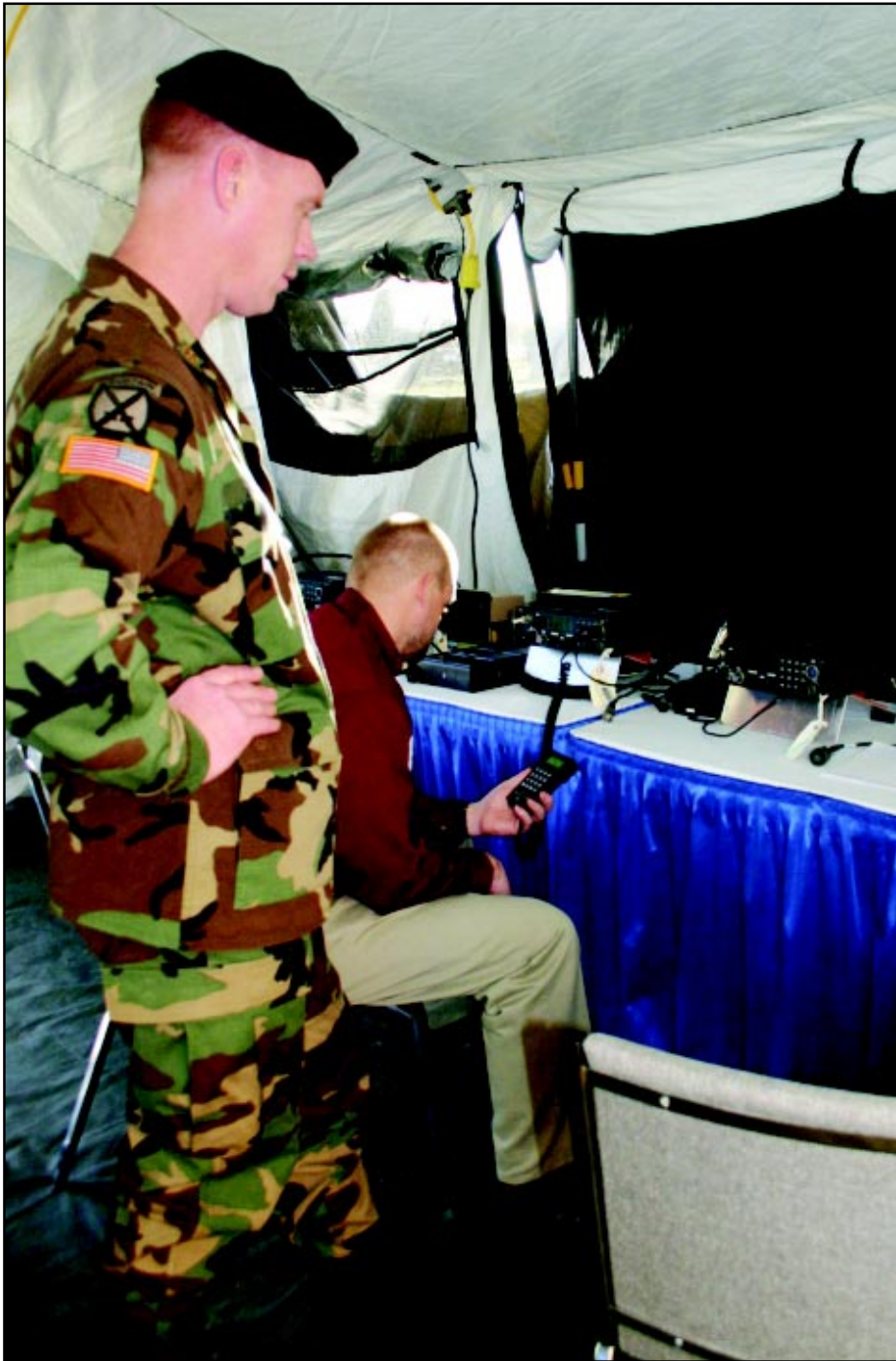
Spectrum



Signal Corps Showcases the Future

A vendor representative speaks to a customer looking at display items during the 32nd Annual Signal Symposium held at Fort Gordon this week. Vendors and Soldiers from all over the world participated in workshops, viewed demonstrations, and got the opportunity to look at what is new with the Signal Corps and communications technology.

Photo by Marlene Thompson



(Above) Maj. Scott Smith, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y., looks on as Tim Hedstrom, team leader for Raytheon, operates an AN/PSC-5 single channel tactical satellite radio during symposium week on post.
(Below) A Soldier is assisted by one of the vendor representatives manning a booth at the Signal Symposium tent Tuesday.

Photo by Spc. Nicole Robus



Tents, satellite dishes and other communications equipment were in evidence across from the symposium tent as the Joint Communication Support Element, 75th Ranger Regiment, 93rd Signal Brigade, and Raytheon, showed off their wares.

Photo by Marlene Thompson



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

(Above) A AS4429, 16-foot antenna that 93rd Signal Brigde had on display for the Signal Symposium.

(Below) Hicks checks out some of the gadgets at display inside the symposium tent.



Photo by Marlene Thompson

Maj. Gen. Janet Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and post commanding general, holds part of the ribbon as Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Terry, U.S. Army Signal Center and post command sergeant major, performs the cut, during the Signal Symposium exhibit area ribbon cutting ceremony.



Photo by Marlene Thompson



Photo by Marlene Thompson